

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims of the application as set forth below:

1 through 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A method for operating a managing and charging system for a bulletin board on an internet, where a message written by an identified person whose mail address is not open to the public is posted; comprising:

storing the mail address of said identified person at a storage unit of said system;

receiving at said system an application by a visitor to said bulletin board via the internet, said application including a request of mail transmission and a gift delivery to said identified person; said visitor being specifically aware of the identity of said person at the time of the visitor's application, and desiring by offering said gift to obtain the mail address of said person;

confirming the visitor's consent to payment for said gift upon receipt at said system of said visitor application;

processing at said system and confirming payment completion by said visitor for said gift;

notifying said mail address of said identified person which is stored in said storage unit to said visitor without requiring coordination with said identified person when the payment completion is confirmed by said system, thereby allowing said visitor to send a mail to said identified person through the internet; and

delivering said gift to said identified person by using physical distribution means when the payment completion is confirmed.